

Excerpt from Interview with Donald Palmer

VR2-V-L-2007-025

Interview Date: October 25, 2007

Interviewer: Mark DePue

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955

DePue: You say you remember the dropping of the atomic bomb?

Palmer: It was on my father's birthday, the first one. To us, we wouldn't be here if it had not been for the atom bomb. And I've even had some of the Japanese now even will admit that, because if we had gone into Japan, just think how many hundreds of thousands of Japanese would have lost their lives in the invasion, as well as –they figured as many as one million on the invasion –of American lives. So the A-bomb, in my opinion, saved lives rather than taking lives.